

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-50 (canceled).

51. (currently amended) A method of inhibiting SARS-coronavirus infection, comprising administering an interferon to ~~[[a]]~~an in vitro cell capable of being infected with SARS-CoV, wherein the interferon is IFN  $\alpha$ -n1, IFN  $\alpha$ -n3, human leukocyte IFN  $\alpha$  or IFN  $\beta$ -1b.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the interferon is recombinant.

53. (previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the interferon is recombinantly produced in E. coli.

54. (previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the interferon is recombinantly produced in mammalian cells.

55. (canceled) ~~The method of claim 52 wherein the cell is in a patient.~~

56. (canceled) ~~The method of claim 52 wherein the cell is a cell in vitro.~~

57. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 56~~claim 51 wherein the cell is a ~~VERO~~VERO E6 cell, a peripheral blood leukocyte or a THP-1 monocyte.

58. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 52~~claim 51 further comprising administering to the cell an additional antiviral agent in combination with the interferon.

59. (previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein the additional antiviral agent is ribavirin.
60. (withdrawn) A kit comprising an interferon and instructions for using the interferon to treat SARS-coronavirus infection, wherein the interferon is IFN  $\alpha$ -n1, IFN  $\alpha$ -n3, human leukocyte IFN  $\alpha$  or IFN  $\beta$ -1b.
61. (withdrawn) A kit comprising an interferon and instructions for using the interferon to inhibit SARS-coronavirus infection, wherein the interferon is IFN  $\alpha$ -n1, IFN  $\alpha$ -n3, human leukocyte IFN  $\alpha$  or IFN  $\beta$ -1b.
62. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 60 wherein the interferon is recombinant.
63. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 62 wherein the interferon is recombinantly produced in *E. coli*.
64. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 62 wherein the interferon is recombinantly produced in mammalian cells.
65. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 62 further comprising an additional antiviral agent.
66. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 65 wherein the additional antiviral agent is ribavirin.
67. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 61 wherein the interferon is recombinant.
68. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 67 wherein the interferon is recombinantly produced in *E. coli*.
69. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 67 wherein the interferon is recombinantly produced in mammalian cells.
70. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 67 further comprising an additional antiviral agent.
71. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 70 wherein the additional antiviral agent is ribavirin.

72. (new) A method of inhibiting SARS-coronavirus infection, comprising administering a combination of recombinant interferon and ribavirin to an in vitro VERO E6 cell, a peripheral blood leukocyte or a THP-1 monocyte, said VERO E6 cell, said peripheral blood leukocyte or said THP-1 monocyte capable of being infected with SARS-CoV, wherein the interferon is IFN  $\alpha$ -n1, IFN  $\alpha$ -n3, human leukocyte IFN  $\alpha$  or IFN  $\beta$ -1b.